

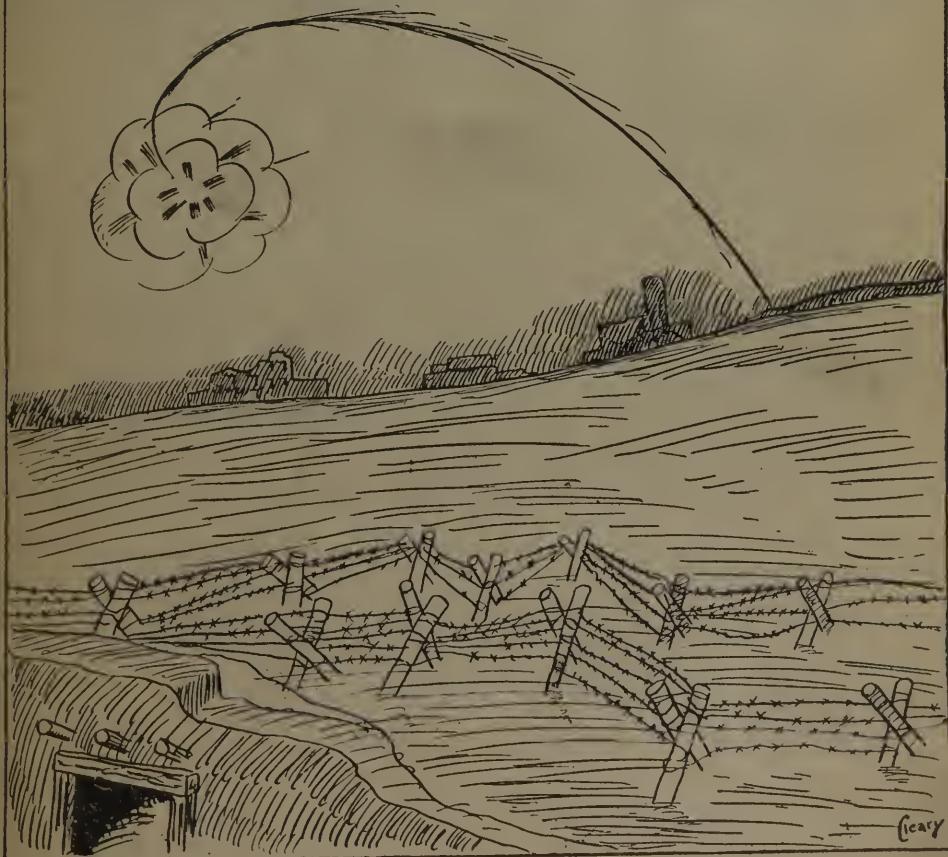
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# STAR SHELL



→ PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY ←

...U.S. ARMY GENERAL HOSPITAL, No 17 MARKLETON, PA. ...



March 1, 1919

**"I Have a Pair of Shoes that Ought to be Fixed?"**

**"Wonder where I could send some laundry?"**

**"Gee, my suit is all dirty! Wonder where I could get it cleaned?"**

These are expressions we hear almost daily: So let us help you out. We are agents for

**Wm. Martin**

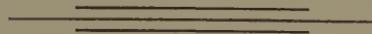
**First-Class Shoe Repairman**

**Meyersdale Steam Laundry**

**Does all Your Dirty Work**

**Footers Dye Works**

**Cleaning, Dying and Pressing**



**Markleton Store Company**

**Markleton, Penna.**

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## SHIRLEY'S Drug Store

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## Dime Saving Bank

CUMBERLAND, MD.

3 Per Cent  
Paid on Deposits

## THE SIMPSON COMPANY

Wholesale Confectionary



Cumberland, Md.

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Given Special Attention*

**We Clean or Dye Army  
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Establishment  
In Southwestern  
Pennsylvania

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**Connellsville, Pa.**

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY

# STAR SHELL

OF, FOR AND BY THE MEN OF THE  
U.S.A. GENERAL HOSPITAL, MARKLETON, PA. ~

VOL. I.

MARCH 1, 1919

No. 9



T is reported that this hospital is to close soon. Whether it closes today, tomorrow, or next year, it is the duty of every person in any way connected with this institution to be on the job until Schuster sounds the last note on his well-known bugle. The game is not over until the last ball is pitched in the ninth inning; the boxer is not beaten until the last count is made by the referee.

Every person, whether he be patient, corps man, nurse, or officer, is responsible for his particular part until the very last day. This hospital has probably made the best record of any military tuberculosis sanatorium in the country. Men who are not here now have contributed to this record. It remains for us to maintain that high standard until the hospital is closed. One's self respect demands that he be not wanting when he is called upon to do his duty toward his job until it is finished.

As you look back forty years hence, will you be proud of the way in which you did your work at No. 17? The responsibility rests with you individually. It is up to you as a real American to prove to your own satisfaction that you are not a slacker. You can do this by doing your duty toward this institution until the time comes for you to entrain.

## Farewell

Delivered by Captain C. B. Sylvester to Officers and Nurses assembled at the occasion of the departure of Captain Gayfree Ellison from the hospital.

Since you ask a story written  
Of a life we see him living,  
Of the worth of Capt. Ellison,  
Of the deeds we see him doing,  
I will answer, I will tell you  
In the language, halting, stumbling,  
Of a soldier, not another,  
Of a monk his "Ave" mumbling.

Who has now heard call of west wind ?  
Call from out the land of Choctaw  
Bidding him return to doctor  
Farmer, Indian Chief and outlaw ?  
He of silence when 'tis golden,  
He of action when the need is,  
Does not spread creation over,  
But sees strictly to his business.

He who hunts the sly bacillus,  
Diphtheriae, Pestis and "T. B."  
Anthraxis, Tetani, Tyfosus,  
As fierce as Kipling's females be.  
He who spears the sturdy coccus,  
Diplo, Pneumo, Gono, "Mike,"  
Staphlo, Steepto, Capsulatus,  
Belial's sons are not more like.

Spurning danger from Spirillum,  
He in conquest, vebrios meet.  
Pole or Poes own bust of Pallas,  
Vanquished pallid Spirochete.  
He, who when the guest is bidden,  
Hunts the spore and stains the cell,  
He who breeds the devil's children,  
He who stirs the broth of Hell.

He who searches every "innard,"  
Tries the fruit of every tree,  
Kidney, liver, lung and gizzard,  
Names and counts each bug and flea.  
This the man we love to honor,  
This the man we hate to lose,  
The rule of the world, that one is called,  
Who's the man we too should choose.

Hear the west wind for him calling,  
Land of peace and not of battle,  
Land whose dirt is coined in dollars,  
In this State of corn and cattle.

Thus you leave us Captain Gayfree,  
Leave us wistful, listening too,  
For the breath of whispering home  
wind,  
When it call for us and you.

## New Equipment

The Quartermaster's office has had two machines added to its office equipment recently. A new No. 10 Remington typewriter with an 18 inch carriage and a Dalton adding machine. These machines help very materially in doing the work in that department.

An electric potato paring machine, manufactured by the American Paring Machine Co., of Philadelphia, has been installed in the kitchen. This machine is very valuable as it pares and washes the potatoes in a very efficient manner. It gives some of the boys a grand and glorious feeling!

The improved bread we have all been enjoying is due to the bread trough that has been added to the bakery very recently. It was long in coming but now that it is here and working we are all happy. The trough is six feet by two feet by twenty inches and made of fine grade of poplar. It is most up-to-date in model and workmanship. The builder has been working out plans since last December and has examined troughs all thru this section of the country before it was built. The bakery is proud of this improved dough container.

German General to retreating soldiers when Americans came over the top.  
"Give them the gas boys." Soldiers in Chorus "We did Sir, but it only turned their faces black and made their hair curly and they carry razors."

# The X-Ray Department



SOMETIMES in December, Major Ashbury, Chief of the X-Ray Department, Army Medical School, Washington, was here on a tour of inspection. After a careful survey, the Major decided that because of the great amount of work required of the X-Ray Department at this hospital, more room was necessary. In his report to the Surgeon General, he recommended that some one be sent here to make extensive alterations. The necessary changes are now almost completed and we are proud to boast of its equipment and the efficient work that that the department, under Capt. J. Thompson, is accomplishing.

The Department consists of four rooms; the operating, machine, dark room and office. It is now almost twice the size as heretofore. The old dark room was removed from the operating room, giving a floor space of 15 ft. by 20 ft. The walls have been lead lined and given a fresh coat of black paint. This lead is necessary for the protection of the operator. Were he exposed to the rays continually for many months, he would acquire X-Ray burns. The equipment in this room consists of one U. S. Army Portable table, such as is used in mobile units operating at the front, a tube stand and a horizontal plate changer for taking stereoscopic plates, an upright fluoroscope, four Coolidge tubes, and a chest of localizing instruments. These instruments are used to locate accurately foreign objects in the body, such as bullets, shell fragments, etc. They are all of the latest American design and have been universally adopted by the Medical Department of all the Allied Armies. A high tension trolley system has also been installed, permitting the use of any of the fore-mentioned apparatus with the throw of a switch.

The machine room is at the rear of the operating room. It contains a Wappler Bellevue Model, 110 V., D. C. X-Ray machine and switch board. This machine is of the very latest type and has all modern controlling devices permitting the operator to obtain as high as 100,000 volts. An interesting part of the outfit is a time switch which permits exposures varying from one-sixtieth to five seconds, to be made with the pull of a string. The operator manipulates the machine from this room, standing behind the lead lined wall and observing his patient through a lead glass window. This room is also used as a store room for X-Ray plates; they, being sensitive to X-Rays, must also be placed behind lead protection.

A Delco Electric Generator is on its way from Georgia and will be used to run the X-Ray machine. This arrangement will make the X-Ray Department entirely independent of the hospital plant for its electric power.

The entrance to the dark room is through a labyrinth, permitting anyone to go in or out of the room without allowing light to enter. The room is illuminated by a ruby light which has no actinic light effect on the emulsion of the plates. Shelves are placed around the room and give the dark room operator ample space to handle the X-Ray plates in the dark. The room is large and well ventilated. A unit system of developing is employed. The tanks of developing solutions are placed inside of a large lead lined tank. Hot and cold water runs into this tank, permitting the technician to maintain the solution at the desired temperature. This large tank also permits thoro washing of plates.

The office is a very spacious room adjoining the Dental Office. It is used as a diagnosis room and for filing plates.

The equipment consists of two Wheatstone Stereoscopes and a large filing rack. The filing and record system is exceptionally efficient and up-to-date. Capt. Thompson insists upon taking all chest cases stereoscopically. When two plates are placed in the Stereoscope, it permits the observer to obtain a sense of depth. The method permits accurate localization of lesion which otherwise would not be found on a single plate.

### Our New Chief

Colonel Roger Brooke, Jr., M. C. the new head of the tuberculosis section was a visitor on February 13th. Colonel Brooke graduated in Baltimore in 1900 and shortly after entered the Army. The personnel of the Surgeon General's Office we previously met lead us to expect special qualities as a physician, soldier and leader, but Colonel Brooke surpassed anticipations. Our only regret was the shortness of his visit. His interest in our work in the X-Ray and his special knowledge of the subject made the medical officers particularly desire his visit prolonged or repeated. Let us welcome you again Colonel.

### Psychological Examination

It has been decided that a psychological survey of all men in this hospital will be made. Psychological examinations have been applied most extensively in the army since May 1918, and the efficiency of these examinations has been one of the means which has made personnel work so successful. Further, the results of the application of group psychological examinations of more than one million and a half men are now available for commercial application and are about to be used in a number of our large commercial firms.

To supplement this data and to give material of further significance, it is planned that each man be examined

individually and a rating of general mental ability and attitude be made. Not only may a certain significance in results be found, but also men so interviewed will find the material novel, challenging, and interesting.

### A Friendly Expression

A letter from one of our friends who has added materially to the comfort and good cheer of General Hospital No. 17, by knitted wear, socks, music, phonograph records and kindly expression.

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 20, 1919.  
My dear Captain :—

I have seen several of the publications of the different hospitals but none neater than the STAR SHELL. I think the patients in General Hospital No. 17 have reason to be proud of their achievement. It is interesting, pretty, and dainty. I am more than glad to be a subscriber. With best wishes for its success and the success of the hospital, I am

Very sincerely,

Gertrude H. Leidy.

### Washington's Birthday

A special dinner was prepared and served on Washington's Birthday for the corps men and patients. February twenty-second is always looked forward to as a special day, and true to custom it was. Our meals on that day were prepared from the best the land could provide and prepared in a delectable manner. We are glad February is rich in birthdays of celebrities for each one brings its pleasure to the inner man.

### New Arrivals

This week arrivals: Q. M. Sergt. Wilson and Corp. Ottenson also Sergts. Richardson and Davis and Pvts. Osborne and Pixley.

# Announcement and Farewell Party



DELIGHTFUL party was held on Valentine's Night at the occasion of the release from service and departure of Miss Ruth Williams, laboratory technician, for her home. Officers and nurses of this hospital promptly assembled at eight thirty o'clock in the halls of the second floor of main building. Entertainment was had in dancing to the rhythmic strains of the accordian played by Schuster.

At sound of taps revelry ceased and all congregated in the Medical Staff room where a pleasing luncheon of sandwiches, ice cream, and coffee was served. On each plate, however, was discovered a tiny Cupid-card bearing the names of Miss Ruth Williams and Lt. Max V. Talbot who is adjutant to the commanding officer of this post. The delightful announcement was followed by the hum of expressions of pleasant surprise, and a number of informal speeches were made congratulating the adjutant and expressing best wishes to the popular fiancee. While every friend of the couple had felt a pang of sadness at the withdrawal of our friend from the Staff, yet the evening glowed in expressions of happiness for the couple.

They departed on the following morning, February 15, for Pittsburgh, accompanied by Miss Helen Eisele, a

friend and former schoolmate of Miss Williams. At five o'clock, at the alter of the Smithfield Methodist Church, the oldest church in Pennsylvania, the betrothed were united in marriage by the double ring ceremony performed by the Rev. Thomas Charlesworth and witnessed by the Misses Helen L. Eisele and Mae A. Elleard.

Announcement of the wedding reached the hospital Sunday morning.

Mrs. Max Talbot is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Williams who reside at Columbus Grove, Ohio. Upon Lt. Talbot's return to duty his wife departed for a few weeks visit with her parents. Lt. Talbot was reared in Griswold a small town in southwestern Iowa. For the past six years he

has been in the military service and has visited points in the Philippine Islands, China, Japan, and Alaska, and served also on the Mexican border.

Mr. and Mrs. Talbot's plans for the immediate future are somewhat undecided because of the indefiniteness of the military program. However, the sincerest best wishes of all who have known them here attend them constantly, as does the hope that all that is best in life may be theirs.

“The girl I left behind me”  
Is a mighty nifty song,  
But, by Jove, I'll have to change it to  
“The girl I took along!”



## At the Sign of the A. L. A.



This symbol stands for the American Library Association which is maintaining a library at the Markleton hospital, as well as in every camp and hospital in the United States and overseas. The library at Markleton has been placed in the recreation room of the main building. Here are to be found nearly a thousand books of all kinds, something that will be of interest to every one.

There are several hundred volumes of fiction in the collection, ranging from the grave to the gay, from the deep to the light and from the wildly exciting to the quiet story. The old favorites are to be found here as well as the modern tales. Zane Grey's exciting stories, of the western plains, O. Henry's short stories, humorous stories by Tarkington, Bell, J. C. Lincoln and others, and mystery stories by Conan Doyle, MaHarg, Green, Rinehart.

For those who are more ambitious and wish to study, there is a very good collection of technical books. Automobiles, electricity, business, engineering, printing, and carpentry, are just a few of the subjects covered. The A. L. A. has prepared attractive lists of these books which may be obtained at the library and which will be a guide in the selection of books to read.

In addition to the books, sixteen weekly and monthly magazines are received regularly. These are supplemented by magazines sent in from Pittsburgh and other nearby towns. From Seattle, Chicago, Atlanta, Pittsburgh, New York, Boston, and eighteen other cities at least one daily newspaper is received.

These newspapers form one of the most important features of the library, since they enable each one at the hospital to get the news from his own home section.

The American Library Association has sent these books, magazines and newspapers to the hospital to be used. The service is all free and it is hoped that everyone at the hospital will avail themselves of the opportunities offered.

If you have not already done so, come in to the Library and get acquainted.

## Hospital News

Lieutenant T. L. Dougherty, Q.M.C., was in Philadelphia last week at a Quartermasters' Conference. The special purpose of the meeting was to consider the coal situation in its relation to Army posts.

Capt. Mark Bradley, S. C., U. S. A., Director of Stores, spent last Wednesday at the Hospital. He was assigned to introduce the new Army property system here and direct other matters brought about by the increase in size of the Hospital. The Captain was well pleased with his reception. 2nd Lt. B. J. Lurie was with the Captain and assisted in directing the work.

Capt. Thomas C. Dunlap, Q. M. C., U. S. A., an expert accountant stationed at Washington, D. C., is here closing up the books for the construction work which has just been finished.

Mrs. Archie F. Richards of East St. Louis, has come to Markleton and will remain as long as the hospital is open.

Mr. Harry A. Bailey, Director Division Bureau of Entertainment, American Red Cross, for the State of Pennsylvania, was here last week and planned for general theatrical performances for the hospital. He will secure furnishings and property for the stage, and then arrange a regular circuit for the post. Mr. Bailey is an experienced showman, having been connected with the Keith Circuit for several years.

## Lincoln's Birthday Celebration

Lincoln's Birthday was fittingly celebrated here, for on that day most of us were freed from routine work and our minds were relieved of common thots by music and dramatic art.

The Red Cross of Connellsville interested itself in our behalf and a crowd of girls came to visit us.

In the morning they visited the wards and other places of interest around the hospital and at noon joined the men at dinner in the large mess hall. They dined very much to themselves but they report that they thoroughly enjoyed the dinner.

After dinner the guests and men went to the second floor and the dance started. The new piano was initiated, and to its music the couples danced up and down the hall. The dance was a great success and the floor was crowded to its capacity all the time. The ladies who did not dance played games with the men. The champion chess player of the crowd issued her challenge, but as none would meet her she went away champion of another town. Toward the end of the dance a drawing contest was conducted. There were three lucky numbers and three prizes. Every one was given a number and every number was good in each draw.

The lucky persons won their prizes, while the unlucky majority solaced themselves by feasting on the apples and oranges that were conveniently located in the hall.

Another distinct pleasure of the day was the fine musical and literary program rendered by some of the guests. They were true artists in their respective fields and were very liberal in showing their talents on us.

Miss Humbert sang first and won her audience by her song and the spirit she put into her art. To our delight she gave an encore.

Miss Soisson then read a "Service" poem for us. It was a typical war

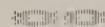
poem and she read it with a vim that would fire any one to action. Miss Soisson was then good enough to read an interesting encore, it too might serve to encourage one to action.

A selection from Verdi's "Ernani" was sung by Miss Brown. The selection served well to show the charm of her voice and her ability to control it. Miss Brown could not do otherwise, so she sang an encore.

Miss Keck played "Impromptu-Fantaisie" by Chopin. Her rendition was perfect in every way. She is a musician of talent and training and in her instrumental work and as an accompanist she was perfect.

Each girl took several turns at entertaining the crowd and we were very sorry when the program ended.

Mrs. H. C. Hays, Mrs. Chas. Davidson and Mrs. Wm. Baley acted as chaperons. Their interest in everything made the day one long to be remembered.



## "Old Ireland's Free"

A True Story

A short time ago about a dozen boys were at the Station when the 4:11 came in. A middle aged Irishman was discharged pretty well intoxicated. He came reeling over toward us saying:

"Boys what do you think of Old Ireland, d'ye think they'll set her fr-e-e? She's the land where I was b-o-r-n, etc., etc."

We replied: Sure, Pat! Let's have a drink on Old Ireland.

He produced a flask and we officially declared Ireland free.

GUY T. TAYLOR,  
12th Engineers.



"Why is he so bitter at the girl he was only recently engaged to?"

"Because when she sent the ring back she labeled the box, 'Glass—handle with care!' "—Lippincott's.

# THE STAR SHELL

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY  
THE PATIENTS AND CORPS MEN

OF

U. S. A. GENERAL HOSPITAL No. 17  
Captain Joseph Walsh, M. C. Commanding Officer  
MARKLETON : : PENNSYLVANIA  
Under the Direction of Reconstruction Department  
Sec. Lieut. Philip M. Conley, Sanitary Corps Chief  
of Reconstruction Service

Sergeant Russell Weidler, - - - - Editor  
Sergeant Dale E. Winterbourne, Managing Editor  
Private Leo H. Tripone, - - Associate Editor  
Private Frank Cleary, - Circulating Manager  
Private Frank Sprint, - - Business Manager

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## The Necessity of Self-Initiated Recreation

During the last decade there has been growing and growing with unmistakable definiteness a tendency which, unless checked, bears every appearance of evil. It has developed in the United States probably more than in any other country, for it is fostered by conditions of bustling industry, strenuous life, and striving toward high finance. It has grown in the soil of intense living. Wholesome recreation, as such, is losing in power and efficiency; people are forgetting how to play.

Play is essential to wholesome living. It is necessary for rest and relaxation of mind as well as body. Just as idleness allows a steel tool to rust, as hard usage dulls its edge, and a touch on the grindstone brightens and sharpens it, so idleness exhausts one's energy, strenuous living and worry exhaust it, and play revives, brightens, and stimulates to greater vitality and newness of health and vigor.

There is in America, particularly, the tendency to forget the art of relaxation which is shown in so many ways that it cannot be denied. Baseball has become professional, and experts only partici-

pate while the mass is satisfied to remain the thrilled throng; no longer are home talent plays and charades common, for opera or vaudeville is preferred. Fishing and hunting are disappearing because those sports are not so richly rewarded with fish or game; and even summer vacations have partaken of the nature of social necessities. Finally, the recreation which can be gained from playing musical instruments and from singing in the home has been forgotten in the more passive enjoyment of classic and common selections played artistically by machines.

While there is much good in all of this, yet the necessity of actual participation and absorption in an activity are sacrificed. Play is an attitude of mind and body; it is an instinct which must be expressed by the entire individual; it is the accompaniment of self-initiated activity for the sake of pleasure itself. It is beyond the point of criticism, of discontent, of fault finding. The spirit of play takes one outside of himself and gives a tingling, healthy tone to mental and physical well being.

The desire for this wholesome recreation at this hospital does not seem to be greater than that thruout our country. However, a great difficulty confronts one who attempts to arrange for entertainment of corps men and patients. Friends have been most considerate; yet the fact remains that a sufficient amount of entertainment is not provided. Play and recreation are necessary for all; but how much more necessary are they at an institution which is located so that access to cities which afford these diversions is impossible.

Would it not be better for those desiring entertainment to feel the possibilities of doing much for themselves and of reaping the richest results of the efforts? The time has come when self-initiated activities for recreation and enjoyment of all must replace efforts to secure professional talent

and entertainment by friends living in neighboring cities. The work of the Non-Commissioned Officers Club in staging "The Man from Home" is particularly credible and is indicative of the movement. The accomplishing of this self-initiated activity and the accompanying development of a genuine play spirit will not only remove any tendencies toward discontent, but also will contribute richly to the re-establishment of physical and mental health. Efforts of friends are wonderfully appreciated; but with the opening of spring come great possibilities to revive wholesome interest and enjoyment of games and activities, self-conceived, self-initiated, self-developed, and fraught with all the benefits of a true and wholesome play spirit.

#### NERVE

### Nerve

Nerve is not a new virtue. It is merely a modern label on old goods.

Our forefathers called it pluck. But nerve is pluck raised to the n-th power. Nor is it a single virtue. It is multiplex.

To claim its discovery on Swiss cheese proofs—a different brand of nerve.

To stick to the wireless keyboard of the foundering "Republic" flashing a cry for help that quivered through the civilized world—nerve.

To finance a gigantic deal requiring millions of Saint Gauden's simoleons, acid tested and up to the purity standard of Caesar's wife—or with three men on bases and two out in the ninth inning, to fan a mighty batter—plain nerve.

Nerve is no unit virtue. It is the amalgam of many. In its composition are self-confidence, courage, energy, grit, hope, enthusiasm, ambition, endurance, and then a surplus.

A man of nerve must perforce be accused of conceit, mostly by the envious and one-cylinder brained who are unable to distinguish between conceit and confidence. Conceit is "I" in

speech; self-confidence is "I" in deed.

Nerve makes a man sure of himself. It destroys hesitation and takes the wabble out of the mind and out of his legs. A man with nerve believes in himself. He knows that he can. Doubt and timidity are strangers to him. In the language of the phrenologist, he is seven times plus self esteem, and his confidence inspires the confidence of others.

Hence the man of nerve becomes a leader of men. He is magnetic; he attracts men. He is galvanic; he energizes men. His way gives him sway.

Nerve begets courage. It puts fear on the scot and is the stuff of which heroes are made. It plunges men into the seas in thrilling rescue; it sends them aloft amid the flames; it goades them on to dare and to do.

Nerve supplies energy. The man with nerve does not droop or sag in the middle. His head is high; his chin is up; his shoulders are square, and his back is straight. His action is as brisk as his brain.

Nerve shows in a man's walk and his conversation. Neither his foot nor his tongue falters. He has a militant tread. He walks with an accent, and talks with emphasis. He uses a chair simply as a step ladder to reach higher, and his only rest is in bed in refreshing sleep.

The man with nerve is a whistling, smiling optimist. He leaks hope. He basks in continual sunlight and success surrounds his horizon. He doesn't know failure, and would decline an introduction. His enthusiasm is as infectious as the laugh of merry childhood. Whatever his proposition it is a winner. He thinks so—and that makes it so.

Furthermore he lasts. He has endurance. Discouragements may beset, obstacles may arise, croakers may quit; but he stays, he fights, he triumphs. Why? Because he has stamina. Nerve wins the long race and the hard struggle. Any trainer of athletes will

certify that nerve has won more championships than speed and brawn.

Nerve. The greatest human asset. It puts a whistle on the lips, tobasco in the blood, cement in the backbone, spunk through the homo.

Got your nerve with you today?..... yes?..... You'll win. And when you've lost your nerve, you're through.

—Selected.



### The O. D. Reports

SIR: (Salutes)—My report containing items of interest to the inhabitants of this institution, is set forth below. As becomes my uniform and the high regard with which I hold these United States, I truthfully report and recommend as follows:

1. Whereas, in the course of human events as experienced in Markleton; it has been reported by a private to a non-com that a native has said he heard upon good authority a vague rumor that without question after wading mud all winter to the picture show, we are at last to get a walk. Recommend that this rumor be confirmed and that we be given a walk wide enough for two people to walk on it single file, within the next two months.
2. While sleeping soundly in my bed, as people with clear consciences do who eat mince pie a la tobasco sauce before hitting the hay, I was awakened by the noise of many feet above my head. I found a one sided dance taking place on the fourth floor with our respected bugler officiating at the organ. Recommend that sacks be stuffed with excelsior and be furnished these young men as dancing partners. Also that they be given slumber slippers so they will not disturb the O. D.
3. Beg to make special mention of the fact that the new boiler was ready to occupy on Tuesday as promised. Recommend that the man who was responsible for such prompt action be given a vote of thanks.
4. Notice the wheels of the truck are covered with mud. Recommend that a wash basin be supplied the motor transport corps, so they may clean the truck properly.
5. Found one of the civilian workmen sweating. I called attention to the that he was disobeying orders. Recommend that this matter be taken up and that it never be allowed to occur again.
6. While standing on the front porch got a cinder in my eye from a passing train. Recommend that hospital be moved further up the hill; the railroad moved across the Casselman; or a shed be placed over the roadbed.
7. Find the Red Cross houses are nearing completion. This work has been done entirely too rapidly. Recommend that the workmen on these buildings be given a week off at full pay.
8. It is entirely too dry in the back yard. Recommend that the hose be turned on the road so that it will assume a natural appearance and keep down the dust.
9. Notice that the nurses dance reluctantly with the officers. Recommend that a group of nice looking young men, well chaperoned, be brought in from Connellsville for a nurses' dance.
10. A certain young civilian who goes around about noon and punches cards of the workmen, should be told that tights are inappropriate for polite society. He ought to wear a longer overcoat, because he might be required to stoop sometime and of course there would be disastrous results.
11. Notice that the steam pipes installed recently have several large crooks in them. Recommend that a sober man straighten them out.
12. Understand the nurses do not like walking up the hill to mess. Recommend that trays be sent to their rooms.

## A Letter from Home

To do one's duty, rather than to be a good soldier, is the motive which has prompted most of the men of our great army to wear the uniform. To many of them, the traditions of discipline and obedience, regularity of prescribed habits, and months of separation from home have no appeal. The thought of the international crisis and its call for competent and willing men, were the facts behind the ready response to the draft law. So willing were our men that those who predicted many difficulties in enforcement and evasion of the law, are ridiculous when considered from view-point of fact. The call was answered nobly, patriotically, wholeheartedly.

As long as active combat continued, the army feverishly chafed in the restraint from too early transportation to the scenes of active combat, but they drilled and toiled doggedly, thoroly, relentlessly and in good spirits on the work to which they were assigned. But after the battle ceased so suddenly with the signing of the armistice there came that feeling that the Big Job has been completed and that the sacrifice incident to continued army service is no longer necessary; hence arises the desire of so many for release from the service.

But the need for men has not passed. Not only are international conditions so unsettled that a preparedness program for offense or police duty is mandatory, but also the work of rehabilitation and reeducation require many men. With this work unfinished the war program is incomplete; it is the intention of the government to make it possible for each soldier to return to civilian life to continue in the best health in the most efficient economic factor possible.

The importance of this work is easily underestimated by those who are sacrificing plans and business opportunities to make it possible. An expression however, in simple and forceable language from the folks at home encourages to

further work and to determination to see the task carried through to the finish.

The following extract of a letter to a medical detachment man from his father pleasingly expresses this point of view and gives us courage.

### Extract of Letter to Medical Detachment Man from his Father.

I saw your letter to sister this morning, in which you said what you had decided to go "A. W. O. L.," until you received my letter, in which I told you to remember "Uncle Sam," and that then you decided to take my advice. I am sure you would never do what you said you had decided to do, for you are too sensible a young man to bring our family name into disgrace. We all remember that it was only a few months ago when you stood ready to give your life, if necessary, for your country. We were very proud of you for the spirit which you displayed and we were very happy when Peace came, and our danger of losing you had passed. But there are those who were not so fortunate as you. Many of the boys went across, and now they are back again, wounded and sick. Surely Uncle Sam owes it to these boys to take care of them and restore them to health, and in the performance of these duties you are Uncle Sam. The hospitals need doctors and nurses and dish-washers. It makes no difference what the work is, so long as it contributes to keep the hospitals going. If you will look at the matter from that standpoint, you will feel proud of what you are doing, and you will realize why we are proud of you as well.

As to getting your discharge, the prospect is not very bright at the present time. If substitutes are sent to Markleton, no doubt they will let you go; but for this, we will have to wait. A great philosopher once said "Patience is a Virtue," and he was right. Another philosopher said, "All things come to them who wait," and he also was right. My advice to you therefore, is to wait patiently and loyally and, sooner or later, your desire will be fulfilled. I

know some very wealthy men, who are still at Camp Upton, waiting for their discharge. So you see you are not alone in your disappointment. If anything encouraging occurs, I will at once notify you. In the meantime, look at the bright side of things, and remember that you are performing a noble duty to your country, and that we all are proud of you.

## Help of the Patriotic Needed

Those Knowing of Disabled Soldiers  
Having Difficulty in Work Asked  
for Information

Washington, Feb. 20.—A call is being sent out by the Federal Board for Vocational Education at Washington, to patriotic individuals all over the country asking assistance in getting the Board in touch with returned soldiers who have been disabled, but who are making an attempt to work at some occupation, and are not succeeding well.

The Federal Board offers to these men the choice of over 400 trades, occupations, and callings from which to select one, and in which the Board will make the student proficient. He will be allowed \$65 a month support while in training. If he is married and has children, there will be allowed \$30 a month for his wife and \$10 a month for each child up to three. All expenses incident to the course of training are paid by the Federal Board. When he has finished and is pronounced competent, there will have been found for him a position in that line for which he has been reeducated, and preferably in or near his former home. This placement, wherever possible, is made so as not to interfere with ties, associations and interests which the man may have. When he qualifies after a trial, and is pronounced competent, his pay begins, which is the same as that received by other competent men doing the same work. His support allowance ceases when he goes on the pay roll, but at

the same time his compensation from the War Risk Insurance Bureau begins and supplements his income. This compensation is absolutely unaffected by whatever he may be able to earn.

The Federal Board welcomes correspondence from those men who have tried to "carry on" and find they are hampered by their disabilities. The interest of citizens who may know of such cases is always welcomed and those who send into the Board at Washington addresses of men who are making a brave but unavailing struggle, are conferring a favor upon those men because they are opening the door of opportunity to all such.

## A Toast to the Boys at the Markleton Hospital

Always laughing, always singing,  
Making every corner ringing,  
Willing to work, willing to do,  
Willing to help their comrads too,  
Always willing to do their share,  
In helping those from "over there,"  
Lifting burdens, caring for the weak,  
Always humble, always meek.  
To whom do I scribe these noble acts all?  
To the boys at the Markleton Hospital.  
So hail General Hospital, Seventeen,  
The best the world has ever seen.

—Gladys Pike.

## Gossip in the Pantry

The Cabbage bowed her queenly head  
The Ham boiled through with rage,  
The Salt ran down the cellar  
For counsel with the Sage;  
The old Potato winked his eye,  
The Pepper sneezed a tear,  
The Ginger burned up with disdain,  
The Corn pricked up her ear,  
The Steak alone in sympathy  
Did smother back a scoff,  
The Eggs were so much mortified  
A dozen scrambled off.  
The entire pantry neighborhood  
Seemed to be all awry;  
The naughty cold-sliced Tongue had told  
A Concentrated Lye.—Selected.

## Distinguished Visitors

Dr. Mollie Putnam, daughter of Dr. James J. Putnam, the late well-known neurologist of Boston, and Dr. Mary D. Walsh, students at Johns Hopkins University Medical School, visited us over Washington's Birthday. They were very much impressed with the beauty of the situation of Markleton, and quite enthusiastic about the work being done here.

## Nurses' Notes

Our Chief Nurse, Miss Gustafson, has returned to duty after a short illness.

Miss Ann K. Ward was appointed Temporary Chief Nurse during Miss Gustafson's illness, and filled her place very well.

Miss Ward and Miss Hitchcock have learned to know their Chief Nurse better during the past few weeks; that is they think they have.

Miss Helen J. W. is musically inclined but her companions know that she prefers the strains of the violin.

Miss Bodkin has returned to us minus the "flu."

Miss Green has returned from a two week's vacation in Vermont.

The Misses Fenton, Hughes and Madden have obtained their discharges from the Army Nurse Corps, and left on Washington's Birthday.

It is a pleasure to say that Miss Hasenfuss is improving daily.

## A Tribute to the Army Nurse Corps

Much is written of the boy who gave up all that was near and dear to him in order to take up arms in defense of democracy. His name and picture adorn the front pages of our daily

papers, our national periodicals, and various monthly magazines. He is lauded to the very skies for being instrumental in bringing about the successful conclusion of the greatest combat the world has ever known.

Fighting side by side with this boy, was another who was an equally important factor in bringing the war to a victorious conclusion for this country. She, of the Army Nurse Corps. The part that she played in this great war, was an all important one, and strange to say, one that the newspaper and other writers seem to give but little mention in their writings.

Has she made any very great sacrifices? Let us see. First, she had to leave her home and all that were near and dear to her, put herself at the command of the Surgeon General, and become subject to his orders, be what they may. Whether she was to be sent to the other side, to one of the many temporary hospitals near the front, or to one of the debarkation hospitals, or whether she would be kept on this side to care for the sick and wounded as they were returned, she did not know and true to the same instinct of patriotism that urged the boys on to victory, she did not care but went where she was ordered.

Those who went across, braved the same ocean perils as the boys, and after they had landed, experienced the same inconveniences they did in being taken to the various bases to which they had been assigned.

Many of them worked amid real danger in hospitals close to the scene of the fighting and heard daily, the thunder of heavy artillery and the steady roar of the lighter field pieces. They had absolutely no assurance that theirs would be a safe station. Some made the supreme sacrifice in hospitals that had been made the target of ruthless hostile air-raders.

Those who remained here performed an equally important duty in caring for the sick and disabled on this side and

an excellent example of their bravery was shown during a recent epidemic of Spanish Influenza with which the country was visited. At that time when our main idea was to keep away from those infected with it so that we might not become sick, they went right in with the victims and nursed them back to health again. Thus braving the danger of becoming infected.

For proof of this fact, we need go no further than our own post. When it became necessary to assign nurses to those who had become sick with the disease here, volunteers were asked for and out of the sixteen nurses assigned to this post, fourteen expressed their willingness to serve. Fourteen instead of sixteen, only because two of their number had themselves become victims of the disease. Those selected went to the isolated wards and remained there for weeks until all signs of the epidemic had vanished.

Many instances might be mentioned in which members of the A. N. C. performed meritorious acts and it is safe to say that in the histories of this war that are to be written, a most interesting page will be devoted to the work performed by them.—Frank Cleary.

A. N. C. D. O.

### Detachment Dope

Pvt. Alexander Kehaya is on an eight day pass to New York city to visit his brother.

Corp. A. T. Sidehamer is away recuperating for ten days after his sick spell. Meyersdale seems to be a popular place with him. Why Andy?

Corp. Dewitt Grable has spent ten days visiting his home in Gyoman, Okla.

Pvt. Amingo Vitellia is on a ten day pass to New York.

Corp. G. W. Syfan was called to his home in North Carolina by the death of his sister.

Pvt. James P. Linn is on pass to his home in Washington, Pa.

Pvt. C. H. Carmicheal has been on a ten day pass to his home in Brownville Jet., Maine.

Corps. Hay and Collins spent the week end in Pittsburgh.

All the boys who went to Uniontown last Saturday night had a most enjoyable time. The girls were royal hosts and Mrs. Porter had spared nothing to make the boys feel at home. We hope it will be an early date when we may have them as the guests at Hospital No. 17.

Pvt. Triponeil is home on pass to Minneapolis. We are wondering who it is there.

Corp. Reitnauer wants to know which is the front end of a ferry boat. He also wants to know who poo poood him.

Say Sergt. Hall, what is the population of Meyersdale?

No wonder the nurses like Elmidy. He is a good mixer, and has plenty of dough and crust. It is rumored that he intends to continue at his old trade after severing connections with Uncle Sam. Remember Jimmy, rolling moss gathers no stones.

Vivion, you heart smasher and lady killer, are you on good terms with Carlow.

There is a certain young man in the Q. M. Dept. who takes great pride in his wardrobe. He usually prepares two days beforehand when fulfilling an engagement, by shaving and powdering and fusing up. Hence the handsome Ben Franklin, the pride of the Q. M. force.

Karl, are you going to feel lonesome these days? Remember we will furnish fare certificates on trips to Ohio. Guess you understand, eh?

There seems to be a vacancy among the nurses this week. We miss the sunshine smile of Miss Madden, the rustle of silk of Miss Fenton and the fleet footedness of Miss Hughes. God bless the ladies, we can't get along without 'em.

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